

Appl. No. 10/081,877  
Amdt. dated March 30, 2004  
Reply to Office action of December 30, 2003

## REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-4 are present in the application. Claims 1 and 2 are amended.

Claim 1 is amended herein to correct a typographical error, to remove an extra "the" in the next to the last line thereof.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner states that the claims are rejected as being incomplete for omitting essential elements. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner's position is that essential elements are missing from the claims. The Examiner states that lamination structure or mechanism is required.

Applicants respectfully do not agree that this is required. The claims are to be read in view of the specification, and it is believed that it is clear what is meant in these claims and there is no missing essential element. The applicants are not required to add lamination elements. Further, it would not seem to make sense to require inclusion of all the required structure to provide an operational device, when the improvement of the invention is directed to a particular portion of that device, in this case the film feed mechanism.

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It is common practice in the U.S. to claim the larger structure of which an invention is included and sometimes the more specific portion of that structure having the improvements. For example, if an invention involves some specific element of an automobile, such as a carburetor, it is perfectly acceptable practice to claim "An automobile, comprising . . . " and set forth the elements of the carburetor. It is not required to set forth all the other elements of the automobile so as to provide all the pieces to make an entire automobile. It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is not supported by U.S. practice rules and law.

Claim 2 is rejected as being anticipated by Williams, U.S. 4,806,183. Applicants respectfully traverse. The rejection states that Williams is capable of performing the intended use of conveying printed matters. However, applicants respectfully note that there is no mention of slow start and slow stop in Williams. Williams cannot anticipate the slow start and stop of the applicants' invention. Even if the apparatus of Williams might be capable of such an operation, the document does not mention any such possibility, so applicants respectfully believe that the rejection is reading function and capability into the document that is not present. Williams is concerned with controlling the speed of separate motors to ensure a uniform or matching rate of feed for separate corrugated webs 24a, 24b and 24c. This is not related to slow start and stop.

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While it is believed that the difference is clear in the claim as present, applicant submits an amendment to claim 2 in order to further clarify the purpose and function, to further distinguish from Williams.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are still rejected as being obvious in view of the combination of Steinberg et al (U.S. 6,129,796) in view of Stanford (U.S. 4,040,043). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants repeat and incorporate their arguments from the previous response on this point. Steinberg is not dispensing lamination film, it is dispensing cord. Even if one takes the position that the Examiner seems to take, that the labels of Steinberg are dispensed films, then the language of the rest of these claims is not met, because if it is assumed that the bar code label generated in Steinberg is the "film" then the rest of the language of the claim is not met, because the length measuring of Steinberg is measuring the length of the cord, not the length of the bar code label.

The Examiner further adds Stanford to teach an alarm. The Examiner says that the subtracted value of supply is measured and the device is responsive to the subtracted value. Applicants respectfully do not agree with the Examiner's assertions here. It is believed that one cannot equate the arm 1 of Stanford that rides on the film roll and moves as the film roll diameter becomes smaller from dispensing of the file with a "means to

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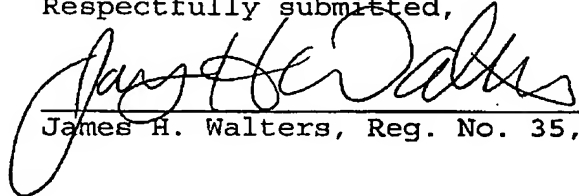
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subtract measured values". Stanford is not measuring the length of the roll and is not subtracting the measured length. Stanford has a rather different mode of operation, and even if one combined Stanford with Steinberg, the claimed invention would not result, because there would be no connection to take the measurement value of dispensed cord in Steinberg and somehow supply that to the moving arm of Stanford to result in a subtracted value.

Thus, the combination would not result in teaching or suggestion of the claimed invention.

In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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